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In the claims:

Please amend claims 14 and 15 as follows:

14. (amended) A method for diagnosing and monitoring the presence and metastases of colon cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining an amount of the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or a polypeptide of claim 6 11 in a sample of a patient; and

(b) comparing the amount of the determined nucleic acid molecule or the polypeptide in the sample of the patient to the amount of the colon specific marker in a normal control; wherein a difference in the amount of the nucleic acid molecule or the polypeptide in the sample compared to the amount of the nucleic acid molecule or the polypeptide in the normal control is associated with the presence of colon cancer.

15. (amended) A kit for detecting a risk of cancer or presence of cancer in a patient, said kit comprising a means for determining the presence the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or a polypeptide of claim 6 11 in a sample of a patient.